

J. SABIN & SONS'

AMERICAN

BIBLIOPOLIST

A Literary Register and Monthly Catalogue of Old and New
Books, and Repository of Notes and Queries.

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No. 48.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.—*Much inconvenience has been caused during the past year by the publication of two editions of the BIBLIOPOLIST. For the future, one uniform edition on fine paper will be published, the subscription to which will be one dollar per year.*

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The French "Grammar of Ornament."

ENGLISH TEXT.

Messrs. J. SABIN & Sons have great pleasure in announcing to the trade, and to the art-producing public generally, the appearance of a new work of sterling value. To those who are acquainted with the pre-eminently excellent and useful book, "Owen Jones' Grammar of Ornament," it will be enough to say that the new work is its equal in all respects and its superior in points of brilliancy and color, care and delicacy of design, and high finish.

POLYCHROMATIC ORNAMENT.

2000 EXAMPLES of all the Styles of ANCIENT, ORIENTAL, MEDIÆVAL RENAISSANCE, and MODERN ART.

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The book is issued in one volume folio, somewhat larger than "Owen Jones' Grammar of Ornament." It will be supplied, handsomely bound in cloth, at \$45.00. *A Discount to the Trade.*

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This work is most confidently recommended to the Trade, and we feel sure that those of our friends who have any facility whatever for the disposition of fine art work will frequently require duplicates. It is a new work, and the Trade will find it to their advantage to order at once, so as to secure purchasers before the book has become generally supplied. It is a work as essential to the intelligent art decorator as Webster's dictionary to a school-master.

We may observe that the book has been appearing in parts with French Text. It is just finished, and now for the first time issued as a complete book in either language.

J. SABIN & SONS, 84 Nassau Street, New York.

Messrs. J. SABIN & SONS have great pleasure in announcing the publication of a *New Library Edition* of the

WORKS OF TOBIAS SMOLLETT,

With *Memoirs of his Life*, to which is prefixed a *View of the Commencement and Progress of Romance*, by John Moore, M.D. Edited by James P. Browne, M.D. (Edinburgh). 8 handsome 8vo vols., half morocco, top edges gilt, published at \$32.00; or bound in calf extra, in a superior style, by the best binders, \$44.00.

Recently published, and uniform with the above, the

WORKS OF HENRY FIELDING,

With an *Essay on his Life and Genius* by Murphy, re-edited by James P. Browne, M.D. (Edinburgh). 10 handsome 8vo vols., half morocco, top edges gilt, published at \$40.00; or bound in calf extra, in a superior style, by the best binders, \$55.00.

Owing to the great difficulty experienced by the Advertisers in supplying their customers with good copies of the *Library Editions* of the *WORKS OF FIELDING and SMOLLETT*, they have been induced to publish a limited number of the above. The works have been edited and revised with the greatest care, and are printed in a style unequalled by any previous editions. The publishers trust they have succeeded in producing both in such a manner as to render them in every respect worthy of a place beside library editions of the works of kindred authors.

The edition of each work consists of 750 copies, of which only a small number now remain for sale.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

The editors will be glad to receive and publish items, literary or historical, of interest to the readers of Notes and

Queries. Everything of value to the American Antiquary will meet with especial welcome.

LITERARY (AND OTHER) GOSSIP.

To Subscribers.—Much inconvenience has been caused during the past year by the publication of two editions of the BIBLIOPOLIST. For the future, one uniform edition on fine paper will be published, the subscription to which will be one dollar per year.

We are compelled to crowd out our usual Obituary Notices, till next month.

Lord Byron's feat of swimming across the Dardanelles has been successfully imitated, according to the *Lewant Herald*, by Lieut. Wm. Moore and Gunner Maloney, of H. M. S. Shearwater, who are reported to have swum from Abydos to Sestos on the 25th of October.

The Roman edition of the *Swiss Times* gives us the following remark of Pius IX on hearing of the marriage of Father Hyacinthe: "The saints be praised, the renegade has taken his punishment into his own hands. The ways of Providence are inscrutable."

A contemporary points out a curious mistranslation in the *Te Deum* as we have it in the Episcopal prayer book. It is in the passage, "make them to be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting." The words, "to be numbered," do not occur in the earliest Latin text. *Munerari* is the word used, so that the passage should read, "make them to be rewarded," &c., the transposition of the "m" and "n" making all the difference in meaning. The error has existed for centuries, and long usage has so sanctioned it as to make alteration next to impossible.

The *Manchester Courier* says that the Manchester free libraries have proved highly successful. The number of times that persons have availed themselves of the libraries during the year 1871-2 was 2,264,688, against 2,112,900 the previous year. The accessions amount to 14,387 volumes.

According to a correspondent of the *Swiss Times*, the tomb of John Phillip Kemble, in the old cemetery on the Berne Road, Lausanne, is in a most disgraceful state. The inscription is illegible from the accumulation of dirt; the iron railings broken and decayed by rust, the gate almost destroyed and without a lock. The cathedral of Lausanne is to be thoroughly restored. Might it not be as well, asks the writer, not merely to restore Kemble's tombstone, but to place a memorial window in the cathedral?

The London Court of Exchequer has confirmed the verdict obtained by the proprietors of *Punch* against Mr. Hotten, the publisher, for infringing their copyright by reproducing several of their cartoons in "The Story of the Life of Napoleon III."

Messrs. Lippincott will shortly publish "A New Dictionary of Poetical Quotations, Covering the Entire Field of British and American Poetry, from the Time of Chaucer to the Present Day. With a Variety of Useful Indices. Both Authors and Subjects Alphabetically Arranged." By S. Austin Allibone, a work—long a *desideratum*—which we are sure will prove a welcome addition on the library shelves of our readers.

M. Paulin Paris has issued separately his essay from the *Romania*, on the origin of the Holy Graal. He contends that the legend sprang from the apocryphal gospel of Nicodemus; that Joseph of Arimathea's bones were stolen from the abbey of Moientier and brought to Glastonbury, where Arthur was also buried; that Joseph's dish of the Last Supper was woven into the Arthur legends; and that Walter Map, at the request of Henry the Second, wrote the Romance of Joseph of Arimathea, or the Graal, which set up Joseph as the first Christian bishop, in order to place England on a level with Rome, and so help Henry in his struggle with the Pope.

A new Life of Mohammed, with a critical examination of his teachings from the Mohammedan standpoint, by Moulvi Syed Ameer Ali, one of the Mohammedan law students at present in London, will appear in January next.

We see that the Oneida family's dear friend, W. Hepworth Dixon, having sued the *Pall-Mall Gazette* for libellously calling him a writer of "obscene books" and of "vamped up books of travel," has got the sum of one farthing damages. Other Americans than the communists will heartily rejoice at the luck which has overtaken this literary scavenger. They will, at all events, if they recollect particularly his "New America," into which he raked these same Communists, the Mormons, and half a dozen other obscure varieties of such sectaries as are distinguished for low sexual morality, and invited Europeans to regard them as specimen Americans. He has at last got something like his deserts. —*Nation*.

A list of some literary men of note holding official positions in England has recently appeared. Sir Arthur Helps is Clerk of the Privy Council, an office from which he derives \$8,500 a year. Sir Henry Taylor, the author of "Philip Von Artevelde," has \$5,000 a year, as one of the senior clerks at the Colonial Office; and J. W. Kaye, who began his literary life as the editor of an Indian journal, issued in London, and whose works on Indian history are so highly valued, is the political and secret secretary at the Indian Office. Mr. Dasent, formerly sub-editor of *The Times*, a writer of novels and translations from the Norse, is the Second Civil Service Commissioner, at a salary of \$6,000; while Mr. William Michael Rosetti, the poet and critic, has \$4,000 a year as an assistant secretary at the Inland Revenue Office. Mr. W. Rathbone Greg, who succeeded McCulloch, the political economist, as the head official at the Stationery Office, enjoys \$7,500 a year; while Mr. Herman Merivale has \$10,000 as Permanent Under Secretary at the Indian Office. Mr. Galton is a Director of Works at Whitehall; Mr. Frank Buckland has \$3,500 a year as an Inspector of Salmon Fisheries; and Mr. Lionel Brough, \$3,000, as an Inspector of Coal Mines. Mr. F. T. Palgrave is an Examiner at the Educational Council Office, and Mr. Matthew Arnold holds the post of Inspector of Schools; Mr. C. Pennell, the piscatorial writer, gets \$2,500 as the Inspector of Oyster Fisheries, while Mr. J. Glaisher and Mr. Edwin Dunkin do not get more between them for inspecting the stars. Mr. Henry Reeve, editor of *The Edinburgh Review*, has a very good position; while offices are also enjoyed by Mr. J. R. Planche, Sir T. Duffus Hardy, Mr. T. Walker, and other writers whose names are less familiar to the general public.

The London Graphic in an article on the late fire, calls Boston "the historic capital of the Granite State!" It seems almost impossible for an Englishman to write anything about this country without some such blundering.

The Scotch at the present moment are sorely troubled to discover some means of honoring the memory of John Knox. A meeting was held in Edinburgh recently, to form a committee of all denominations for the purpose of raising subscriptions for "a suitable memorial" to the Scottish Reformer, but there was considerable difference of opinion as to what kind of memorial would be most likely to give satisfaction to Knox himself. Various plans were suggested—such as a stained glass window in St. Giles' Cathedral, a statue, the issue in popular form of Knox's "History of the Reformation," etc., but none of them seemed to give general satisfaction. Mr. Macfie, M. P., refused to take the chair, "because the idea of erecting a monument to John Knox seemed to him most incongruous." Mr. Duff "ventured to say" that nine-tenths of the people of Scotland would have nothing to do with a stained glass window. Dr. Begg thought a memorial window would be "an insult to the memory of Knox." Dr. Thomson's "own leanings were towards a great column." Professor Blackie objected to the publication of Knox's work, because "it could be done for a paltry hundred pounds." Dr. Smith's difficulty with regard to a statue was that "he should not like John Knox to be honored precisely as George IV. had been honored." In the end a committee was appointed to consider the subject, and perhaps it will come to the conclusion that the best means of honoring the memory of John Knox is to leave it alone.

We hear it asserted that the *Daily Telegraph* has commissioned Mr. George Smith, of the British Museum, to proceed at once to Nineveh, and to endeavor thereat to make further discoveries, similar to that of the curious record of the Deluge, a translation of which Mr. Smith lately read before the Royal Geographical Society. With the customary generosity displayed by that paper, and in consonance with the act of the *New York Herald* in commissioning Mr. Henry Stanley to find Livingstone, the proprietors of the *Daily Telegraph* have given their commissioner a *carte blanche* as to all expenses.

The literary remains of the late Miss Susan Ferrier, author of "Destiny," &c., are about to be prepared for publication. Miss Ferrier died in September, 1854. Her correspondence embraces letters from Sir Walter Scott, John Gibson Lockhart, and other distinguished contemporaries, while her commonplace Book contains unpublished compositions of Sir Walter Scott, Thomas Campbell, John Leyden, M. G. Lewis, and other eminent literati.

A memorial tablet has lately been placed in Winchester Cathedral to the memory of Jane Austen, author of "Pride and Prejudice," "Northanger Abbey," &c.

We have received *The Catholic World*, for December, from Patrick Donahoe, 358 Washington street. Mr. Donahoe, though an earnest Catholic, will forgive us for subordinating the consideration of the *Catholic World* to our sympathy with his individual case. "Individualism" may or may not be bad in theology, but it is very natural in business and in matters of personal friendship. There is much controversy as to which particular class of Christians will be tenants of "the burnt districts" in the next world, but all publishers, at least, have a tender feeling for any of their brethren of the press who may happen to get into it in this. Mr. Donahoe has been so brave, resolute, cheerful, and confident in meeting the calamity which destroyed his magnificent building in Franklin street, that the hearts of all of us go out to him in cordial sympathy. The burning afterwards of a whole edition of *The Pilot* in Rand & Avery's fire, made most of us have a semi-Catholic interest in the paper. Any third dispensation of Providence in the same direction, will make some Protestants sympathize with the creed as well as with the man. He has been so thoroughly undaunted by vexatious interruptions with his ordinary work and business, that the inference is, that he must have got some of his strength of will and heart through the church to which he belongs. At any rate, we feel sure that the "fire-fiend" can never beat Mr. Donahoe, either in the fair or unfair fight, but that he will continue his Catholic paper, and distribute his Catholic books in spite of all the malice of fate and fortune. Nobody, not engaged in publishing, can understand the calamity of being burnt out of a perfectly convenient and well-organized publishing office. It requires a good deal of character, and a good deal of philosophy, and a good deal of religion to stand it as Mr. Donahoe has stood it. If you met him to-day, you will find no trace of his misfortune in his elastic gait and cheerful countenance. Dr. O. A. Bronson once defined liberty as "the victory of man over his accidents." Who can doubt that our friend, Mr. Donahoe, is, on this definition, a perfect freeman?—*Boston Globe*.

Nicholas Copernicus, it is generally assumed, was born on the 19th of February, 1473, and died May 24, 1543. Our European exchanges lead us to believe that the four hundredth anniversary of his birth will be celebrated with more *éclat*, if possible, than that of Galileo, on the 18th of February, 1874. Among other things to take place in commemoration of the great astronomer, is the publication of a centenary edition of his great work,

Messrs. Holt & Williams, New York, are now the American agents for the *London Fortnightly Review*.

"We are," says the *London Daily News*, of the 26th ult., "very glad to learn that the report of the death of Miss Eliza Cook, the celebrated poetess, which appeared in our columns and those of some of our contemporaries, is entirely without foundation. The statements that accompanied this report are equally unfounded. Miss Cook is resident at Thornton Hill, Wimbledon, and not at Deptford; although a great sufferer from neuralgia, she is in perfect possession of her mental faculties, and, so far from receiving an annuity from any publisher, she has adequate private means. We exceedingly regret the publication, on authority which has usually been trustworthy, and which seemed to us in the present case to be sufficient, of statements founded on mistake, and of a painful and wounding character." Let us add our expression of sympathy, with an assurance to the authoress that some of her unambitious and true verses will long "keep her memory green," and that while her song of "The Old Arm Chair," lives, her spirit may well exclaim *non omnis moriar*.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* says that it is able to state, on the very best authority, that there is no truth in the alarming paragraphs which have recently appeared, concerning the state of Mr. Carlyle's health. "They are all zero," as he expresses it. Mr. Carlyle is in the full enjoyment of his usual vigor and good spirits, and takes his daily walks with surprising power of limb. A correspondent writes: "It is never pleasant for the youngest of us to be told we are looking awfully ill, even when we are in the best of health; and although Mr. Carlyle conceals any sense of pain at these reports—if it exists at all—he very heartily expresses his contempt for the concoctors of such catchpenny paragraphs, which are at once cruel and false. Probably these reports originate in ignorance. There is a gentleman often seen in Chelsea, much older than Mr. Carlyle, and very infirm, whose hat and clothes are so constructed that their owner is frequently mistaken for the distinguished author of 'Sartor Resartus.'"

Mr. G. W. Reid, Keeper of Prints and Drawings in the British Museum, has nearly finished "A History of the Print Room of the British Museum, with some Accounts of its Contents and Keepers," with illustrations.

The *Athenæum* of November 23d says: The following lines by Moore are, we believe, now published for the first time:

When life looks lone and dreary,
What light can dispel the gloom?
When Time's swift wing is weary,
What charm can refresh his plume?
'Tis woman, whose sweetness beareth
On all that we feel or see,
And if man of Heaven ere dreameth,
'Tis when he thinks purely of thee.
Oh! woman!

A correspondent writes to the *Pall Mall Gazette*—In his notice to-night of "The Life and Letters of Captain Marryatt," your reviewer observes: "It will be probably a new fact to our younger readers that the well-known sketch in profile of the dead Emperor lying on his camp bed, was from the pencil of Captain Marryatt." It may interest both old and young, and Mrs. Ross Church, too, to know that the above-mentioned interesting relic came, since the publication of her book, into the possession of Mdme. Amedée Thayer, widow of the French ex-Minister, and daughter of General Bertrand, the Emperor's faithful companion in captivity. She prizes it highly, as she remembers, when a young girl, standing by Captain Marryatt's side while he made the sketch, on the memorable morning of the 5th of May, 1821. After a lapse of half a century she recognizes the sketch and its fidelity.

At Mr. John Murray's trade dinner last month, the London booksellers ordered 6,200 copies of Darwin's forthcoming book, and 1,100 of Child's "Benedicite." The largest orders were 11,500 for "Little Arthur's History of England."

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Late Edwin Forrest.—That "thrift may follow fawning," we can well understand the motives of self-interest that have uniformly prompted the dramatic critic of a daily journal to eulogize, and not without justice, a well-known actor, upon whose shoulders alone a remnant of the mantle of the late tragedian has fallen; but I cannot imagine that a decent respect for the memory of the dead was inimical to the credit, prosperity, or renown of the living.

If, therefore, to be a popular and successful purveyor of dramatic and literary criticism, wielding a not ungraceful and unimaginative pen, is synonymous with the unenviable title of a defamer of the dead, then indeed has the veteran actor's biographer, who, degrading criticism from its high office, and prostituting the liberties of a free press to such miserable uses as emanate from a biased and illiberal mind, won an undesirable, if not notorious, distinction.

And yet, so consistent has been the course of the journal alluded to, from the period, some years ago, when there appeared in its columns a series of dramatic essays known as the "Forrest Criticisms," written originally by a Mr. Bing, and revised by the then associate editor of the paper, and which were really remarkable for their

elaborate and intellectual analysis, up to the hour of Mr. Forrest's last appearance in New York, that I must confess the uncalled-for and unjustifiable attack has not caused me complete surprise. Yet, while this mournful display of subverted criticism produced a momentary pang of sorrow and regret, it has alike elicited feelings of unqualified commiseration, pity, and contempt for its author. Malignant in its conception, vituperative in its abuse, distorted in its details, and untruthful in many of its statements, the article referred to can meet with but one response among the tens of thousands throughout the land, who, while they may differ in regard to Mr. Forrest's merits, either professional or social, cannot but accord him the title of having been one of the noblest types of an American citizen; while from not a few it has elicited the earnest wish to—

"Put in every honest hand a whip
To lash the coward naked through the world."

To enter into a narration of Mr. Forrest's life and remarkable career, would doubtless be deemed an act of supererogation at this time, the press everywhere having been filled with biographical reminiscences and eulogistic notices (with this one exception) of the lamented dead, and yet a passing tribute to the virtues of the veteran actor may not be inappropriate.

An American in every pulsation of his heart, every attribute of an intense and strong nationality was imbued in the very depths of his noble, generous nature; and while to the world Mr. Forrest may have appeared, doubtless, cold and distant, those who knew him best can bear ample testimony to his kindly, cordial, and confiding disposition; while his generous tribute to the memory of the unfortunate author of "Metamora," J. A. Stone; his beneficence to his warm and admiring friend, William Leggett (and subsequently to the estimable widow of that gentleman); his parental regard for his protégé, Miss Lillie; his kindness to his young companion, the actor, Barton Hill, and his straightforward dealings with his former manager and coadjutor, William Wheatley, will ever serve as monuments more enduring than the transient and questionable notoriety of the Bohemian who to-day chuckles at his time-serving and "butterfly

dalliance," and who to-morrow "will be heard of no more forever."

Contrary, also, to a wide-spread impression, Mr. Forrest was not generally unpopular with the profession, as witness among many incidents, the episode connected with his remarkable engagement at the Broadway Theatre, some twenty years ago, when the artists there employed, including every one connected with the stage, presented to the tragedian a gold-headed cane in commemoration of his unprecedented success, and as a testimonial of their regard, each one jealously seeking to be a contributor to the memorial.

Truly, too, the tears that were shed unbidden only a few days since by the stalwart actor, (a popular favorite with the east side of the city,) when shocked by the intelligence of the veteran's sudden death, his "tongue clove to the roof of his mouth," and forbade his utterance—spoke more than volumes of the love he cherished for his brother-worker, now still in death; while word or pen cannot adequately portray the emotions of sorrow, and of anguish that prompted another, whose name alike occupies a high place in the annals of dramatic art, to press with loving lips the icy forehead of his former friend and companion, ere the coffin-lid shut out that noble form from earthly view forever. And, if amid the turmoil and excitement of a professional career, of which there is none more arduous and exacting, there are, perhaps, a few who have at times thought Mr. Forrest unnecessarily imperious or austere to his associates; or who have momentarily incurred the frowns of censure or the angry word; has not the fancied wrong been more than atoned for by the munificent bequest made by the buried actor, in behalf of those who, "to the manner born," may become disabled by their infirmities, or bowed down by the cares of honorable service and the weight of declining years?

Mr. Forrest had attained his position by genius, and not by favor; and instead of trammeling his fancy to please a few conceited critics, he won the approbation of the masses, not as a servile copyist, but by his original delineation of character, his majestic presence, superb form, strong features and musical voice, enchanting his hearers by their mysterious and sublime

influence; while his emotional and susceptible temperament, rendered him capable of producing the most natural effects, which seldom failed to touch their hearts and open the well-springs of every sympathetic nature. Edwin Forrest is in his grave. A "man more sinned against than sinning;" "after life's fitful fever, he sleeps well," The tongue of calumny and the pen envenomed with the poison of "envy, malice, and all uncharitableness," can never reach him more. Inimitable artist, adding new graces to, and ennobling every character he assumed; generous-hearted, much-abused man; born of the people, and by them nurtured, caressed, and flattered, he was not ungrateful for their favors; while to the profession he so loved, so honored, and adorned, he has bequeathed a lasting memorial, unequalled in the magnanimity of its conception, unparalleled in its bounteous and wide-spread provisions.

Reflecting an unfading lustre upon his country's drama, and a prouder one upon the title of an American citizen, the loss of Edwin Forrest is a national one, and will be so regarded throughout the length and breadth of the Republic; while in every clime where the inspiration of the mighty bard has shed its magic influence, with the genius of that master spirit, will be linked the name, the fame, and cherished memory of one of the noblest exponents of dramatic art—EDWIN FORREST.

M.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18th, 1872.

Quotation Wanted.—Can any of your readers inform me where the following passage is to be found? It has come into my hands in an imperfect shape, and I cannot even be sure how the lines ought to be divided. I shall be glad to be told where the original passage occurs.

G. H. S.

"—now draws he to the West,
And noble clouds near to his royal person all the day
Attend him to his chamber. In his eye,
His broad, full, fearless eye, no faint or chill is visible.
Grandly and solemnly, as one who hath done work
Which shall remain, he marches to his rest.
Lift up thy gorgeous curtains thou great sky!
Fall back, O clouds! where now he goeth he must go
alone."

The Land-fall of Columbus (See BIBLIOPOLIST, November, p. 582).—Mr. Gibbs' paper referred to by your correspondent J. T. P., (whom I think I recognize,) is printed in the Historical Magazine for June, 1858, Vol. II, page 161. To my mind it is eminently satisfactory. He shows that Turk's Island would be the land-fall, according to the journal of Columbus, as preserved by Las Casas. Irving and Becher, to sustain their theories of Cat Island and Watling's Island, alter the courses given in the journal, while by following them, you must strike Turk's Island. Again, neither Cat Island or Watling's meets the journal's description of the first island, while Turk's Island does, having the great Reef Harbor, the number of islands in view, and an island that is not really an island. J. T. P., by examining this matter with the light of personal knowledge of the island, can add to or diminish the weight of Mr. Gibbs' position, and I trust he will send you his impressions on the question at length.

J. G. S.

[TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Several contributions stand over till next month. The January and February numbers of our journal are out of print and cannot at present be supplied. All communications should contain the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. "F." is thanked for his communication, but having in our mind Polonius' advice to his son, we have reluctantly come to the conclusion that the cutting is inadmissible.]

A CENTURY OF BIBLES.*

After all the work which has been spent on our translation of the Bible, it is curious to think how much work remains to be done. Philologically the text has hardly been examined at all. If we accept the common statement that in the English Bible we have the first fixed standard of our literary tongue, it becomes of the highest importance that we should know accurately what English dialect its first rendering represents. But no competent scholar, such as Dr. Morris or Mr. Skeat, has devoted himself to the question, and we are left to stray hints that Tyndale was a Gloucestershire man, and that his version has some distant relation to the dialect of the west. Between Tyndale's first work, however, and what is commonly called the Authorised Version there are several intermediate stages, and each of these—Cov-

erdale's, Matthews', the Bishops' Bible—deserves a special examination. Each has a distinct relation to the first version of Tyndale, but each has besides a distinct philological value of its own. Mr. Hallam long ago pointed out that the Authorised Version itself is very far from representing the English of the time in which it appeared:

It is not [he says very truly] the language of the reign of James I. It may, in the eyes of many, be a better English, but it is not the English of Daniel, or Raleigh, or Bacon. It abounds, in fact, especially in the Old Testament, with obsolete phraseology and with single words long since abandoned, or retained only in provincial use.

A volume of the highest interest might be based on this pregnant sentence. But, so far as we know, no such volume exists at the present moment, and, while claiming the Authorised Version as the perfection and standard of the English tongue, we are left to the vaguest impressions as to its philological origin, its relations to the English before it, or its literary influence on the English after it. It is not too much to say that a great deal of this preliminary work has to be done before it is possible that we can have, in any accurate sense, a "revision" of the translation at all. As an instance of the difficulties which such an enterprise at present has to meet, we may take the question of Scriptural names. So far as we can learn from common rumor, the revisers intend to let this question alone, and as a matter of prudence we are not inclined to dispute the wisdom of their decision. But a moment's thought over the matter would show that, as a question of "revision," if revision is to aim at a higher correctness of rendering, that of names stands in the first rank of all. Half the progress which history has made in recent days has sprung from the more correct rendering of names. The substitution of Zeus for Jove in a translation from the Greek, or of Chlodewig for Clovis in an account of the Franks, is not a piece of mere pedantry, but the indispensable preliminary to any right appreciation of the Hellenic mythology or the Frankish early history. The value of the change is proved by the ardor with which it has been welcomed in almost every department of literature and history. Mohammed, Nikias, Cnut, odd as the names would have sounded fifty years ago, are now familiar to every schoolboy. The Bible is indeed the only great historical monument remaining in which the old system of nomenclature remains unchanged; and yet it is the one historical work whose system of nomenclature is utterly without meaning or justification. There was some ground for talking of Charlemagne, or, with our neighbors over the Channel, of Aulugelle. But there is no ground whatever for calling the patriarch Jacob Jacob, and turning the apostle Jacob into James. As it is, the whole physiognomy of the Bible is lost. One of the most remarkable facts which meet us on the face of the Gospels, for instance, is that of the social medley

* *A Century of Bibles; or, the Authorised Version from 1611 to 1711, &c.* By Rev. W. J. Lofie, F.S.A. London: Pickering, 1872.

which must at the time have prevailed in Galilee. Take, for example, the list of the Twelve. In the names of two brothers, the Hebrew Simeon is linked with the Greek Andreas; the Hebrew Mattathias, Bartholomai. Johannan, stand side by side with the Greek Philippos. One Simeon bears the Greek surname of Zelotes, another that of Petros. We are not, of course, suggesting that the forms which we have given should in every case be adopted, nor are we forgetting that at the Christian period Hebrew names had taken for the most part a Syriac type. But the real end of inquiry would be to ascertain what the true form of the name was at the time, whether Syriac or Greek, and then to restore it to the text. As it is, the whole apostolic list has no philological or historic meaning at all. A name like Andrew reaches the same pitch of absurdity as Tully or Tite-Live. But the change of one Judah into Judas, and of another into Jude, passes out of the range of absurdity into that of direct perversion. And neither for the perversion nor the absurdity, be it remembered, is any real authority to be claimed. Up to the appearance of the Authorised Version the nomenclature of each translation differs with the whim of the translator. Phinees and Esay, Sehon and Core, are simply specimens of the earlier forms which were superseded by the divines of King James. It is odd if the Jacobean forms are at last to be regarded as sacred, and if the revisers of the Jerusalem Chamber are to recoil from the task of meddling with the blundering creations of their predecessors of three hundred years ago.

We have touched at some length on these points before proceeding to Mr. Lofie's "Century of Bibles," just because Mr. Lofie has shown in what a very unpromising field of Scriptural investigation good work may still be done. The ordinary impression, even among those who are acquainted with the great changes which our translation passed through from Tyndale's first version (that of King James), is that with the latter the work of metamorphosis ended. The present revisers have been praised or abused for their disturbance of a version which has lasted unaltered for nearly three hundred years. No impression can be more glaringly incorrect. Within thirty years of the issue of King James' Bible we find it again revised by the command of his successor. Ward, Goad, Mead, and others have the credit of the revision of 1638—a revision marked by the appearance of the famous verse, "Whom ye may appoint," in the sixth chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, which has been erroneously ascribed to the Puritans. But even this revision of a revision, though sanctioned by the use of a century, was again revised in 1769, and it is this revised issue of Dr. Blayney's which forms the basis of our present text. These two revisions, however, have been usually regarded as comprising

the history of the Authorized Version; so general, in fact, has been the impression that there was no further history to tell, that bibliographers have almost to a man paused at the version of 1611. In a certain sense, no doubt, the impression was true enough. No subsequent version differed from that of King James, as the version of King James differed from the Bishops' Bible, or that from Tyndale's. The two revisions of 1638 and 1769 are simply revisions of detail, and their ostensible aim is in great part the restoration of the Authorized Version. But if there are no great revolutions, there has been a steady current of small changes. Mr. Fry has the merit of having opened a new path of inquiry by the patient collections which established the distinctness of the various black-letter folio editions from 1611 to their close in 1640. In the present work Mr. Lofie has followed with the same patience and accuracy the course of Mr. Fry. His investigations, however, cover a far wider field. His "Century of Bibles" is in fact a minute bibliographical account of every edition of the present version, in whatever size, issued during the hundred years which followed its first appearance:

It must by no means be supposed [remarks Mr. Lofie] that because all our bibliographers have left a large part of the narrative untouched, or have at most only stepped across the boundary line previously fixed at 1611, nothing of interest remains beyond. On the contrary, whether we regard the further history of the Authorized Version from a purely bibliographical point of view, or choose a more general and historical aspect in which to examine it, we shall find much of importance and more that is rather amusing than actually weighty; and in tracing the various changes and chances by which the modern Bible has been made to differ from the original, we shall find that it by no means partakes of the felicity of the nation whose history is a blank. Many a battle has been fought—many a defeat sustained—many a victory has been gained for the truth. Injuries have been inflicted by partial friends; wounds have been received from unscrupulous enemies. Although it remains substantially the same as when it left the hands of the translators, yet Puritans and Calvinists, Churchmen and Methodists, Hebraists and Græcists, have all left their marks upon it. It would be too much to say that the gulf which separates the last edition of Bagster from the first of Barker equals that by which the Authorized Version differs from the tentative efforts of Tyndale and Coverdale; but it is no exaggeration to assert that our modern Bible is altered throughout from its original—for the better in some places, for the worse in some; and that while the general correctness of the printing is greater as a rule in our day, the spelling and the punctuation might yet with advantage follow the earlier model.

It is only by following Mr. Lofie from page to page that we realize the steady influence of printers' blunders. The errors of the foreign editions of the Dutch and Scotch Bibles are almost innumerable. In a black-letter Testament of 1664, printed either at Edinburgh or in Holland, a mistake may be met with in every column. In England itself a vigorous attempt to ensure correctness was made by the restriction of the right of publishing Bibles to the king's printers, and no more curious proof of the perpetuity of English usages could be found than in the history of this monopoly. The house of Christopher Barker, to which the patent was granted in 1577, went on steadily printing under it to 1709. The right was

held for sixty years by Thomas Baskett, and purchased in 1769 by Charles Eyre, whose representatives, Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, "continue a succession which has been unbroken since 1565." But the monopoly failed in securing the various editions from even ludicrous and profane blunders. In one of the earliest issues, the second folio of 1611, in which the mistakes of the first were supposed to have been corrected, we find, "Then cometh Judas with them unto a place called Gethsemane." A folio of 1717 has received its name of "The Vinegar Bible" from a misprint in the heading of the parable of the Vineyard. In two quartos of the present century we are told that "the blast of thy terrible ones is as a stone against the wall," and that "the dogs liked his blood." We may perhaps suspect a little irony in the compositor of 1638 (he may have been an acquaintance of Milton's), who makes the heathen vex the Israelites, not with their "wiles," but with their "wives;" or in the printer of 1640 who substituted "rulers in the wilderness" for "mules." But the real mischief of such blunders lay in their tendency to perpetuation. The omission in the first folio of two important words in the fifth chapter of St. John's First Epistle is still perpetuated in our Prayer Books, though it has been corrected in the text of our Bibles. "Strain at a gnat" was probably a typographical blunder in the first issue of King James' Bible for the "strain out" of the Bishops' and Geneva versions; but it remains to this day. So a misprint in the First Epistle to Timothy, which originated at Cambridge about 1629, went on uncorrected, edition after edition, till 1803. The fine of 3,000*l.* inflicted by the Star Chamber on Barker for his omission of the prohibitory "not" in the Seventh Commandment is a well-known instance of the fruitless efforts to obtain correctness; the fine, however, as we hear from Mr. Lofie, "dwindles on investigation to 300*l.*, and this again is compounded for by the presentation of a set of Greek types to one of the Universities." Nor was free trade more conducive to correctness than monopoly. The Great Rebellion for a time threw open the market, but the popular editions of Field and Hills were disfigured with a greater number of blunders than any that had appeared before. Their defects were mercilessly exposed in a rare tract by William Kelburne, which Mr. Lofie has reprinted in his preface. Besides the greater errors, however, which we have noticed, we find an infinite number of smaller modifications going on in spelling and punctuation. During the first century which is comprised in Mr. Lofie's list, the spelling of no two editions is the same. In such a change as that of "sometimes" for "some time," spelling becomes an important organ of revision. "We still," says Mr. Lofie, "have such words as 'plow,' 'astonied,' 'throughly,' 'pransings,' 'sope,' although the authority by which they are retained has no more existence in reality than that by which such words as 'shamefastness' or 'unpossible' were altered." The subject which Mr. Lofie touches only to pass by is one which might well attract an independent investigator.

It is odd enough, in the midst of bibliographical

details, to drop across stray fragments of history; but even in Mr. Lofie's catalogue we may find a few. It was probably to Cecil and Walsingham that the Barkers owed the grant of their patent, and the favor was liberally acknowledged by the grateful printers. The Tiger's Head which formed Walsingham's crest was not only adopted as the sign of their shop in Paternoster Row, but frequently appears in the wood-cut initials of their Bibles. Cecil's arms were preserved in the black-letter folios to their close in 1640. Churchmen and Puritans fought each other in the various headings to the chapters. A misprint such as the "seven men of honest report . . . whom ye may appoint over the business," instead of "we," became a battle-ground for Episcopalians and Presbyterians. The illustrations introduced, whether by Laud or others, in the Scotch Bible of 1633 stirred all Scotland into a flame. The "Popish pictures" were denounced even by Lord Hailes as "abominable" and as "horrible impiety." "Some of them," comments Mr. Lofie with bibliographical calmness, "are nevertheless very good, and not unworthy of the advanced state of art at the time in Holland, whence they probably came." It is a curious evidence of the Puritan triumph in 1649 that the Bible printed by the Company of Stationers in that year was evidently made to resemble the Geneva version as far as was possible. Each page is surrounded with the "notes" so obnoxious to Laud's orthodox rigor, and an "argument" appears at the head of every book. The eagerness with which the Royalist feeling sprang up again after the death of the Protector is shown in a bible of 1658, where the royal arms with the crown and garter already appear in the centre of the title-page. A yet more curious proof of the transition of political feeling during the period of the Great Rebellion may be found in the Bible dated by Mr. Lofie "1649-50-55." This odd volume was printed in 1649 at Edinburgh, and on the back of its first title-page we find the arms of Charles I, as King of Scotland; but the fortunes of war seem to have prevented its completion. On the title-page of the New Testament we find that it was again undertaken at London in 1650, while the colophon shows us that it was not finally completed and published till 1655.

In the immense mass of detail which Mr. Lofie has given us we notice singularly few errors, and those of little consequence. The Cambridge black-letter quarto of 1633 is, if we can trust the copies which have fallen under our observation, not by Buck and Daniel, but by T. and J. Buck. Daniel in fact, is not known to have joined the firm till 1635. The scarce Testament of 1644 is really part of a Prayer-book; while the Testament of 1653 forms in reality part of a volume containing the Psalms, printed in 1658 and mentioned by Lea Wilson in his well-known list. These, however, are small matters. The value of the general catalogue is increased by special catalogues of the Bibles which are found in the collections of the British Museum, the Lambeth and Bodleian Libraries, the Library of Canterbury Cathedral, and those of Mr. Lea Wilson and Mr. Fry. The book, in short, is an invaluable repertory of information for any student of the later versions of the English Bible.—*Saturday Review.*

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